

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed December 23, 2004, with a shortened statutory period of three months set to expire March 23, 2005. Claims 1-60 are pending. With this amendment, claims 1, 2, 7-9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 27-29, 37, 38, 41, 42, 47-49, 57, and 58 have been amended, and claims 4, 5, 11-16, 19, 20, 24, 25, 31-36, 39, 40, 44, 45, 51-56, 59, and 60 have been canceled.

The Examiner objected to figures 4 and 5 stating that the term "mood" should be changed to the term "tone". Applicants have submitted replacement drawing sheets that include proposed amendments to figures 4 and 5 to change the term "mood" to the term "tone". Therefore, this objection is believed to be overcome.

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 2, 11-15, 17-22, 31-35, 37-42, 51-55, and 57-60 as being indefinite specifically referring to the term "tone". Applicants have amended the claims to eliminate the term "tone". Therefore, this objection is believed to be overcome.

Applicants have amended the claims to describe generating a message that includes a plurality of sentences. Each one of these sentences is one of a plurality of different types of sentences. A determination is made as to the percentage of the message that includes each type of sentence. The message is automatically modified by automatically changing the percentage of the message that includes at least one of the types of sentences. The percentage of the message is changed by changing a type of at least one sentence from a first type to a second type of sentence.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 16, 19-22, 27, 28, 36, 39-42, 47, 48, 56, 59, and 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,781,879 issued to *Arnold*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Arnold describes analyzing the content of an information store. Each element in the information store is matched to a lexicon. If there is a match, the values assigned to the lexicon are recorded. Elements with undesirable scores are selected and considered for replacement by similar lexicon with a different score. Elements are words or short phrases.

Applicants claim generating a message that includes a plurality of sentences where each sentence is one of a plurality of different types. Applicants also claim determining a percentage of a message of each type of sentence included in the message. The message is automatically modified by changing the percentage of the message that includes one of the sentence types. The percentage is changed by changing a type of at least one sentence from a first type to a second type.

Arnold does not teach different sentence types. *Arnold* does not teach determining the percentage of a message that includes each one of a plurality of different types of messages. *Arnold* teaches substituting words in some text. *Arnold* does not teach automatically modifying the message by changing the percentage of the message that includes at least one type of sentence. *Arnold* does not teach changing the percentage by changing the type of one of the sentences from a first type to a second type. Therefore, *Arnold* does not anticipate Applicants' claims.

Claim 2 describes parsing the message into a plurality of elements. A determination is made for one of the elements of a percentage of the element that includes each type of sentence.

The Examiner states that *Arnold* describes these features in column 4, lines 51-55 and column 5, line 25-28. Column 4, lines 51-55 describes selecting text to be analyzed. Words or phrases in the selected text are then analyzed. This section of *Arnold* does not teach determining for one element a percentage of the element that includes each type of sentence.

Column 5, lines 25-28 describes analyzing each word. This section of *Arnold* does not teach determining for one element a percentage of the element that includes each type of sentence.

The Examiner rejected claims 3-6, 9-15, 23-26, 29-35, 43-46, and 49-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Arnold*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 describes determining a size of each of the elements into which the message had been parsed where a determination is made, for each element, of a percentage of the element that includes each one of the types of sentences.

Arnold does not teach specifying a size of each of the elements into which the message had been parsed where a determination is made of for each element of a percentage of the element that includes each one of the types of sentences.

The Examiner states that official notice is taken that is well known to specify the size of an element when parsing text. However, it is not well known to specify a size of an element where a determination is made, for each element, of a percentage of the element that includes each one of the types of sentences. Therefore, *Arnold* does not render Applicants' claims unpatentable.

Claim 6 describes parsing the message into a plurality of paragraphs. The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to specify the size of each element to be a word, sentence, or paragraph. However, *Arnold* teaches away from making an element larger than a word or short phrase. *Arnold* teaches making direct substitutions for words or short phrases based on a numerical value assigned to each. Therefore, *Arnold* provides a list of possible substitute words that have a different assigned value. Each word is analyzed separately. It would not be practical to implement *Arnold* such that an entire paragraph could be substituted for another paragraph. There are too many possible combinations of words for it to be practical to come up with possible substitutions for every possible paragraph. Therefore, *Arnold* does not render Applicants' claims unpatentable.

The Examiner rejected claims 17, 37, and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Arnold* in view of U.S. Patent 6,718,368 issued to *Ayyadurai* and further in view of Writing Good Reports, published by *Bowden*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 has been amended to describe determining a percentage of a last message, a determination being made of a percentage of the last message that includes each one of the types of sentences, and the percentage of the message being automatically changed to be the percentage of the last message.

Ayyadurai describes transmitting reply messages based on the content of a received message. *Bowden* describes setting the right tone in a message. None of the references, either singly or in combination, describes determining a percentage of a last message, a determination being made of a percentage of the last message that includes

each one of the types of sentences, and the percentage of the message being automatically changed to be the percentage of the last message.

The Examiner rejected claims 18, 38, and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Arnold* in view of *Ayyadurai*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Claim 18 has been amended to describe determining a percentage of a sender's message, a determination being made of a percentage of the sender's message that includes each one of the types of sentences, and the percentage of the message being automatically changed to be the percentage of the sender's message.

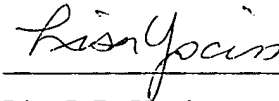
Ayyadurai describes transmitting reply messages based on the content of a received message. None of the references, either singly or in combination, describes determining a percentage of a sender's message, a determination being made of a percentage of the sender's message that includes each one of the types of sentences, and the percentage of the message being automatically changed to be the percentage of the sender's message.

None of the references, either singly or in combination, describe, teach, or suggest the combination of generating a message that includes a plurality of sentences where each one of these sentences is one of a plurality of different types of sentences, a determination being made as to the percentage of the message that includes each type of sentence, the message being automatically modified by automatically changing the percentage of the message that includes at least one of the types of sentences, and the percentage of the message being changed by changing a type of at least one sentence from a first type to a second type of sentence. Therefore, Applicants' claims are believed to be patentable over the cited prior art.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: 03.23.05

Respectfully submitted,



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